

CHAPTER 98  
WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING  
[Prior to 12/31/86, Conservation Commission[290] Ch 111]

RESIDENT WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING

**571—98.1(481A) General.** Wild turkey may be taken during the spring season subject to the following rules:

**98.1(1) License.** All hunters must have in possession a spring wild turkey hunting license valid for the current year when hunting wild turkey. No one, while hunting wild turkey, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another hunter. A hunter having a license valid for one of the spring turkey hunting periods may accompany, call for, or otherwise assist any other hunter who has a valid turkey hunting license for any of the spring hunting periods, except that the hunter doing the assisting may not shoot a turkey or carry a firearm or bow unless the hunter has a valid license with an unused tag for the current season. If a turkey is taken, it must be tagged with the tag issued to the hunter who shot the turkey. Two types of licenses will be issued.

*a. Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses will be issued by zone and period and will be valid in the designated zone and for the designated period only. No one shall apply for or obtain more than two combination shotgun-or-archery licenses. Hunters who obtain one or two combination shotgun-or-archery licenses, whether free or paid, may not apply for or obtain an archery-only license.*

*b. Archery-only licenses will be valid statewide and shall be valid during all hunting periods open for spring turkey hunting. No one may apply for or obtain more than two archery-only licenses. Hunters purchasing one or two archery-only licenses may not apply for or obtain a combination shotgun-or-archery license.*

**98.1(2) Daily bag and possession limits.** Daily bag limit, one bearded (or male) wild turkey. Possession limit and season limit, one bearded (or male) wild turkey per license.

**98.1(3) Shooting hours.** Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

**571—98.2(481A) Method of take.**

**98.2(1) Permitted weapons.** Wild turkey may be taken in accordance with the type of license issued as follows:

*a. Combination shotgun-or-archery license.* Wild turkey may be taken by shotgun or muzzle-loading shotgun not smaller than 20-gauge and shooting only shot sizes 2 or 3 nontoxic shot or 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 lead or nontoxic shot; and by longbow, recurve or compound bow shooting broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only. No person may have shotshells containing shot of any size other than 2 or 3 nontoxic shot or 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 lead or nontoxic shot on their person while hunting wild turkey.

*b. Archery-only license.* Wild turkey may be taken by longbow, recurve or compound bow shooting broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only.

**98.2(2) Prohibited devices.** The use of live decoys, dogs, horses, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait, crossbows, except as otherwise provided, and the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds is prohibited, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

**98.2(3) Zones.** Persons with a spring turkey hunting license may take wild turkey in designated areas in accordance with the type of license issued. Persons with an archery-only license may take wild turkey statewide. Persons with a combination shotgun-or-archery license may take wild turkey in one of four zones described as follows:

a. *Zone 1.* Zone 1 is all units of Stephens State Forest west of U.S. Highway 65 in Clarke and Lucas counties only.

b. *Zone 2.* Zone 2 is Shimek State Forest in Lee and Van Buren counties only.

c. *Zone 3.* Zone 3 is Yellow River State Forest in Allamakee county only.

d. *Zone 4.* Zone 4 is all of Iowa except for those areas described by Zones 1, 2 and 3.

**98.2(4) Exceptions.** Rescinded IAB 12/1/99, effective 1/5/00.

**98.2(5) Hunting periods.** Hunting periods will be established in accordance with the type of license issued.

a. *Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* Consecutive hunting periods are 4, 5, 7, and 19 days, respectively, with the first hunting period beginning on the Monday closest to April 13.

b. *Archery-only licenses.* The hunting period shall be 35 days beginning on the Monday closest to April 13.

**571—98.3(481A) Application procedure.** All applications for spring wild turkey hunting licenses must be made on forms provided by the department of natural resources and returned to the office in Des Moines, Iowa, with a remittance of \$22.50 per license. Only one individual may apply on a single application form.

**98.3(1) Application periods.** Applications for spring wild turkey hunting licenses shall be received and accepted as follows:

a. *Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* Applications for all combination shotgun-or-archery licenses will be received and accepted beginning the second Monday in January through the second Friday in February, or if they bear a valid and legible U.S. Postal Service postmark applied during that period. Licenses that are incomplete or improperly completed, do not meet the above conditions, or are received after the application period will not be considered valid. A hunter may submit up to two applications during the application period, provided that at least one application is for hunting period four in Zone 4, and that \$22.50 is submitted with each application. Applicants for Zones 1, 2 or 3 may apply for one choice of zone and hunting period on an application, and may, at the applicant's discretion, choose to accept a license for hunting period four in Zone 4 if the applicant's first choice is denied. No other second choice will be allowed. Applications that are complete except for a zone designation will be assigned to Zone 4. Applications for Zones 1, 2 or 3 that are complete except for a hunting period designation shall be rejected and returned to the applicant. Hunters who apply for more than one combination shotgun-or-archery license in a combination of zones, hunting periods or license types that is not permitted will have the second application received assigned to hunting period four in Zone 4.

If applications for Zones 1, 2 or 3 have been received in excess of the license quota for any zone or hunting period, a drawing will be conducted to determine which applicants receive licenses. If the quota for any hunting period in Zones 1, 2 or 3 has not been filled, licenses shall be issued in the order in which applications are received beginning the second Monday in March and shall continue for five consecutive days or until the quota has been met, whichever first occurs. If a second application period is necessary to fill quotas, only applications for paid licenses for those hunting periods in Zones 1, 2 or 3 with licenses still available will be accepted. Hunters who have not previously applied for a license, were unsuccessful in the first drawing or who have already received one combination shotgun-or-archery license for hunting period four in Zone 4 may apply for one license in any of the hunting periods for which licenses are still available.

b. *Archery-only license.* Applications for archery-only licenses shall be received and accepted from the second Monday in January through the first Friday in March.

c. *Alternate application options.* The department may develop media/telecommunication options that would allow for additional methods of obtaining a turkey license. Methods and deadlines may be determined by the department as part of the alternative methods developed.

**98.3(2) License quotas.** Separate quotas will be established for each license type.

a. *Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* A limited number of combination shotgun-or-archery hunting licenses will be issued for each hunting period in Zones 1, 2 and 3. There shall be no limit on shotgun-or-archery licenses in any hunting period in Zone 4. The same quota shall apply to Zones 1, 2 and 3 in all four hunting periods. The maximum number of combination shotgun-or-archery licenses which will be issued in each zone for the designated hunting period(s) is as follows:

- (1) Zone 1. 65.
- (2) Zone 2. 125.
- (3) Zone 3. 80.
- (4) Zone 4. No limit.

b. *Archery-only licenses.* The number of archery-only licenses shall not be limited.

**98.3(3) Application forms.** Applications for special turkey hunting licenses, as provided for in Iowa Code section 481A.38, shall be on forms furnished by the department, and shall be received at the department of natural resources office no later than the second Friday in March.

**98.3(4) Landowner-tenant licenses.** A landowner or tenant may obtain a free combination shotgun-or-archery license or a free archery-only license. If a free shotgun-or-archery license is obtained for hunting period four in Zone 4, an application may be submitted for a paid shotgun-or-archery license for any zone and hunting period. If a free shotgun-or-archery license is obtained for any hunting period other than hunting period four in Zone 4, the paid shotgun-or-archery application must be for hunting period four in Zone 4. If a free archery-only license is obtained, a paid archery-only license may be purchased during the archery-only application period, but no shotgun-or-archery license may be applied for or obtained. The free license must be applied for on the landowner application form. Nonresident landowners are not eligible for a free wild turkey hunting license.

**571—98.4(481A) Transportation tag.** A transportation tag bearing license number of licensee, year of issuance, and date of kill properly shown shall be visibly attached to the carcass of each wild turkey in such a manner that the tag cannot be removed without mutilating or destroying the tag before the carcass can be transported from the place of kill. The tag shall be proof of possession of the carcass by above-mentioned licensee.

Rules 98.1(481A) to 98.4(481A) are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, and 483A.7.

**571—98.5(481A) Harvest information requirements.** Rescinded IAB 12/1/99, effective 1/5/00.

**571—98.6 to 98.9** Reserved.

#### NONRESIDENT WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING

**571—98.10(483A) General.** Wild turkey may be taken during the spring season subject to the following:

**98.10(1) License.** All hunters must have in possession a valid nonresident spring wild turkey hunting license and show proof they have paid the current year's habitat fee when hunting wild turkey. No one, while hunting turkey, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another hunter. Licenses will be issued by zone and period and will be valid in the designated zone and period only. No one shall obtain more than one nonresident spring wild turkey hunting license.

**98.10(2) Seasons.** Bearded (or male) wild turkey may be taken only by the use of shotguns, muzzleloading shotguns, and bow and arrow during the first, third or fourth hunting periods as defined in 98.2(5), paragraph “a.” No nonresident hunting licenses will be issued for the second hunting period.

**98.10(3) Daily, possession and season limits.** The daily bag limit is one bearded (or male) wild turkey; the possession and season limit is one bearded (or male) wild turkey.

**98.10(4) Shooting hours.** Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day.

**571—98.11(483A) Zones open to hunting.** Licenses will be valid only in designated areas as follows:

1. Zone 1. Zone 1 is all units of Stephens State Forest in Clarke and Lucas counties west of U.S. Highway 65.
2. Zone 2. Zone 2 is the Shimek State Forest in Lee and Van Buren counties only.
3. Zone 3. Zone 3 is the Yellow River Forest in Allamakee county only.
4. Zone 4. Zone 4 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by Interstate Highway 80 and on the west by U.S. Highway 59, with the exception of the areas described as Zone 1 and Zone 2.
5. Zone 5. Zone 5 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 20 and on the east by U.S. Highway 59.
6. Zone 6. Zone 6 is that portion of Iowa lying east of U.S. Highway 63 and north of Interstate Highway 80, with the exception of that area described as Zone 3.
7. Zone 7. Zone 7 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 20, on the west by U.S. Highway 59, on the south by Interstate Highway 80, and on the east by U.S. Highway 63.

**571—98.12(483A) License quotas.** A limited number of wild turkey hunting licenses will be issued in each zone in each season as follows:

1. Zone 1. Closed.
2. Zone 2. Closed.
3. Zone 3. Closed.
4. Zone 4. 325.
5. Zone 5. 95.
6. Zone 6. 200.
7. Zone 7. 46.

**571—98.13(483A) Means and method of take.**

**98.13(1) Permitted weapons.** Wild turkey may be taken only with shotguns and muzzleloading shotguns not smaller than 20-gauge and shooting shot sizes 4, 5, 6, 7½, and 8 only; or with recurve, compound or longbows with broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only. No person may have shotshells containing shot of any size other than 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 on their person while hunting wild turkey.

**98.13(2) Prohibited devices.** The use of live decoys, dogs, horses, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait, crossbows, except as otherwise provided, and the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds is prohibited, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor-driven land conveyance. “Paraplegic” means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

**571—98.14(483A) Application procedure.** Applications for any of the three spring wild turkey hunting periods must be made by telephoning 1-800-367-1188 from the second Monday in January through the last Friday in January. If applications are received in excess of the license quota for any hunting zone or period, a drawing shall be conducted to determine which applicants shall receive licenses. If licenses are still available for any hunting zone or period, licenses will be issued as applications are received until quotas are filled or the second Friday in March, whichever occurs first. Party applications with no more than four individuals will be accepted. No one shall submit more than one application. Incomplete or improperly completed applications, applications not meeting the above conditions, or applications received prior to or after the application period shall not be considered valid applications. The nonresident license fee shall be \$75.50.

**571—98.15(483A) Transportation tag.** A transportation tag bearing license number of licensee, year of issuance and date of kill properly shown shall be visibly attached to the carcass of each wild turkey in such a manner that the tag cannot be removed without mutilating or destroying the tag before carcass can be transported from the place of kill. The tag shall be proof of possession of the carcass by the licensee.

**571—98.16(483A) Harvest information requirements.** Rescinded IAB 12/1/99, effective 1/5/00.

Rules 98.10(483A) to 98.15(483A) are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1 and 483A.7.

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